

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 296243

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PRETORIA JOHANNESBURG 4 DEC QUOTE

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 1222

USIAC

DEPT. PASS CODEL DIGGS

USIA FOR IOP/M; IAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: TRANSCRIPT OF CONGRESSMAN DIGGS PRESS CONFERENCE OF
DECEMBER 3, 1976 IN CAPE TOWN

FIRST OF ALL I WANT TO EXTEND CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF
THE TWO MEN WHO WERE KILLED ON THE SECOND OF DECEMBER WHO
IN MY VIEW ARE THE MOST RECENT MARTYRS IN THE STRUGGLE FOR
DIGNITY AND SELF DETERMINATION IN SOUTH AFRICA. SECONDLY I
WOULD LIKE TO SAY AS WE COME TO THE CLIMAX OF OUR VISIT TO
SOUTHERN AFRICA AND SPECIFICALLY TO SOUTH AFRICA, THAT UNLESS
THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT BEGINS TO UNDERTAKE MORE CON-

STRUCTION DIALOGUE FOR CHANGE THAT THE CONSEQUENCES, TO USE THE
EXPRESSION OF ONE OF THE OFFICIALS IS TOO HORRIBLE TO CON-
TEMPLATE. THERE IS NO DIALOGUE OF ANY MEANINGFUL QUALITY -. I AM
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PAGE 02 STATE 296243

REMINDING OF AS I AM HERE IN THE CAPE, OF THE REFERENCES THAT

WERE MADE TO DIAOLOGUE BY THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION WHEN WE MET WITH HIM SEVERAL DAYS AGO, DIALOGUE DOES NOT MEAN JUST PEOPLE IN THE SAME ROOM, DIALOGUE DOES NOT MEAN CONVERSATIONS TO WICH THERE IS NO RESPONSE AND DIALOGUE AND COMMUNICATION DOES NOT MEAN THE PRESERVATION OF A STATUS QUO. I WOULD LIKE TO ALSO HOPE THAT THE SAME JUSTICE THAT WAS ACCORDED THE -. IN THE ACQUITTAL OF THE NUSAS STUDENTS YESTERDAY, THEIR CHARGES UNDER THE SUPPRESSION OF COMMUNISM ACT, I HOPE THAT THE STUDENTS THAT WERE ARRESTED AFTER THE DEMONSTRATIONS BEGINNING JUNE 16 WILL BE ACCORDED SUCH CONSIDERATION, BECAUSE THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY EYES WILL BE FOLLOWING THESE TRIALS. I THINK ALSO ONE SHOULD TAKE DUE NOTE OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN CONFERENCE WHICH TOOK PLACE IN MASERU AND WHICH FOCUSED ATTENTION UPON THE CONDITIONS PREVAILING IN THIS COUNTRY IN A WAY THAT IS UNPRECEDENTED, IS PERHAPS, CERTAINLY IN RECENT HISTORY, AND TAKE PARTICULAR NOTE OF THE PLEDGE OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN PARTICIPANTS IN THAT CONFERENCE WHO CALLED FOR A WHOLE SERIES OF ACTIONS RNLCTING THIR EVALUATIONS OF THE POTENTIALITY FOR CHANGES IN THIS AREA. WE HAVE MET HERE WITH LEADERS OF THE COMMUNITY THAT MAKES UP WHAT IS KNOWN AS THE CAPE AND WE ARE ALSO MEETING WITH SOME OF THE LEADING BUSINESS PEOPLE NOT ONLY IN THIS AREA BUT IN THE COUNTRY, I COME AWAY FROM THE CLIMAX OF OUR ACTIVITIES HERE SADDENED BY THE INCOMPREHENSIBLE DEFINITION OF CHANGE IN THIS AREA - I DON NOT THINK THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THIS COUNTRY OR THE CONTROLLING POLITICAL INTERESTS OF THIS COUNTRY REALLY WANT CHANGE IF THEY ARE TALKING ABOUT CHANGE IN THE LIMITED WAY THAT REPRESENTS WHAT THEY CONSIDER TO BE CONCESSIONS THUS FAR. I HAVE VERY SERIOUS QUESTIONS THAT CONTROLLING ECONOMIC INTERESTS AS REFLECT IN CERTAIN BUSINESS ACTIVITIES ON THE PART OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY REFLECTS THE RESPONSE THAT IS NEEDED IF WE ARE GOING TO HAVE ANY PEACE IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD. SETTING ASIDE THE QUESTION OF SHARED POLITICAL POWER AND I ONLY SET IT ASIDE FOR PURPOSES OF EMPHASISING SOME OTHER THINGS, I HAVE YET TO SEE THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY OR REALLY ANY OTHER ELEMENT IN THIS COMMUNITY TALK IN REALISTIC TERMS ABOUT SHARED EDUCATIONAL POWER, OR SHARED ECONOMIC POWER OR SHARED POWER IN ANY OTHER, SHORT OF THE POLITICAL POWER AND SO WHEN ONE EXAMINES, WHEN ONE REALLY GETS UNDERNEATH WHAT UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 296243

SOME PEOPLE THINK IS BUBBLING ON THE TOP, NAMELY SOME FERMENT FOR CHANGE ONE REALLY DOES NOT SEE CHANGE IN THE SAME CONCEPT THAT WE IN THE UNITED STATES UNDERSTAND CHANGE TO MEAN, WE IN THE UNITED STATES WHO HAVE BEEN THROUGH OUR OWN RACIAL REVOLUTION, AND UNTIL PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THAT, I THINK THAT THE CONSEQUENCES OF ANY ACTION, EXTERNALLY OR INTERNALLY ARE JUSTIFIED, I CERTAINLY AM GOING BACK TO THE UNITED STATES, RENEWED IN MY DETERMINATION, IF THAT IS POSSIBLE, TO EXERT

EXTERNAL PRESSURES ON THIS ADMINISTRATION THAT MIGHT POSSIBLY BRING SOME KIND OF RESPONSE, THAT INCLUDES A WHOLE RANGE OF THINGS THAT HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH POLITICAL POWER, THE PRESS HAS ALREADY REPORTED AN ACTION THAT WE EXPECT TO TAKE WITH RESPECT TOO THE VISITATIONS OF SOUTH AFRICANS FROM ALMOST EVERY PART OF THIS SOCIETY TO THE UNITED STATES, AND THE IMPLICATIONS THAT ARE INVOLVED IN THAT - ECONOMIC SANCTIONS SHOULD BE THE KEY IN MY VIEW TO ACTION THAT IS TAKEN UNILATERALLY BY THE UNITED STATES OR MULTILATERALLY WITH UNITED STATES PARTICIPATION THROUGH THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES. PERHAPS THAT IS THE FRAMEWORK FOR WHATEVER QUESTIONS YOU WOULD CARE TO SUBMIT AT THIS TIME:

Q: (RICHMOND CAPE HERALD: "MY NEWSPAPER'S BEEN EMBARRASSED RECENTLY IN THAT A BLACK SPORTSMAN FROM NEW ZEALAND WHO WE INVITED TO THE COUNTRY TO SPEAK AT A DINNER WAS REFUSED A VISA BY THE GOVERNMENT IN THE VIEW OF YOUR REPORTED STATEMENT THAT SOUTH AFRICANS SHOULD BE REFUSED VISAS TO THE UNITED STATES, COULD YOU EXPLAIN FURTHER YOUR APPARENT VIEW THAT WITH THE PROBLEM OF VISAS FOR IDEOLOGICAL REASONS CAN BE ANYTHING OTHER THAN NEGATIVE AND COUNTERPRODUCTIVE."

A: "WELL, IN THE FIRST PLACE I DO NOT VIEW SPORTS AS AN IMPORTANT INSTRUMENT FOR CHANGE IN SOUTH AFRICA. I AM TOLD THAT THE MINISTER OF SPORTS HAS BEEN VERY ANXIOUS TO SEE ME, I HAVE NOT HAD ANY DIRECT CONTACT WITH HIM, BUT I HAVE NO SPECIAL INTEREST IN TALKING TO THE MINISTER OF SPORTS BECAUSE I THINK THAT THAT IS DIVERSION AREA, SUBJECT, SORT OF WHEN ONE TALKS ABOUT FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE HERE IN THIS COUNTRY AND I TAKE THE SAME VIEW WITH RESPECT TO THE ENTERTAINMENT FIELD AND THIS IS ONE AREA, THAT I HAVE SORT OF RELAXED ONE TO SOME EXTENT, I GUESS I MAY HAVE BEEN SEDUCED TO SOME EXTENT BY THE BELIEF THAT ARTHUR ASHE AND MOHAMED ALI AND OTHER SPORTS FIGURES

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 296243

AND ENTERTAINERS BY THEIR PRESENCE, BY GENERATING PRIDE PERHAPS ON THE

PART OF BLACKS WHOMIGHT GET IN TO SEE THEM, WHO MIGHT CHANGE IMAGES THAT PEOPLE HAVE OF THE WORTH OF BLANENESS IN THOSE FIELDS, AND THAT THERE MIGHT BE SOME TRANSFERENCE OF THIS IMAGE INTO OTHER MORE IMPORTANT AREAS, I GUESS I MAY HAVE BEEN A LITTLE SEDUCED, BECAUSE I HAVE NOT REALLY BEEN DOING VERY MUCH ALONG THOSE LINES, BUT I AM GOING BACK TO THE UNITED STATES AS THE STRONGEST ADVOCATE POSSIBLE FOR THE COMPLETE ISOLATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA FROM ANY SPORT OR ENTERTAINMENT ELEMENTS NO MATTER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES THEY MIGHT COME OVER HERE ON - BECAUSE IN MY VIEW THIS HAS NOT GENERATED CHANGE, WE HAVE HAD THE ARTHUR ASHES AND OTHER ENTERTAINERS AND SPORTS FIGURES COME HERE- AND IT REALLY HAS NOT CHANGED ANYTHING, IT REALLY HAS NOT AFFECTED THE STATISTICS AT THE PASS LAW

LEVEL OR IT REALLY HAS NOT ACTED AS A DETERRENT TO GOVERNMENT REPRESSIVE ACTIONS AGAINST PEOPLE WHO ARE SEEKING THEIR RIGHTS- THEIR GOD GIVEN RIGHTS- IT HAS NOT DONE ANYTHING TO IMPROVE THE CRIMINAL DISPARITIES IN EDUCATION AND IN JOB OPPORTUNITIES AND SO ON, SO I AM REALLY NOT INTERESTED IN THE - I REGRET THAT THE GENTLEMAN TO WHICH YOU REFER HAS BEEN SUBJECTED TO THAT PARTICULAR SITUATION OR THAT SOME PEOPLE, OR THAT THE BY-PRODUCT OF SUCH A POLICY MAY AFFECT SOME PEOPLE ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS, BUT WE ARE TALKING ABOUT A SYSTEM HERE, AND I AM TIRED OF PEOPLE SPEAKING ABOUT THINGS THAT MAY AFFECT A FEW INDIVIDUALS."

Q: (RICHMOND/CAPE HERALD) "SIR, BY WORKING FOR THE ISOLATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN SPORTS, SOME PEOPLE MIGHT ARGUE THAT YOU WERE WORKING IN THE SAME DIRECTION AS THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT - WOULD YOU CARE TO COMMENT ON THAT?"

A: "WELL...IF WE END UP AT THE SAME PLACE FOR DIFFERENT REASONS THEN SO BE IT."

Q: (POLLOCK/NATAL MERCURY) "CONGRESSMAN DIGGS, YOU WERE SPEAKING JUST NOW ABOUT EXTERNAL PRESSURES ON SOUTH AFRICA ECONOMICALLY, WOULD YOU BE IN FAVOR OF THE UNITED STATES STOPPING ALL INVESTMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA AS PART OF THESE PRESSURES?"

A: "I WOULD BE IN FAVOR OF STOPPING ALL UNITED STATES INVEST-
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 05 STATE 296243

MENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY."

Q: (FRANSMAN/CAPE TIMES) "MR. DIGGS, I HAVE A QUESTION - DO YOU BELIEVE THAT A CAPITALIST ORIENTATED COUNTRY LIKE THE UNITED STATES WILL BE REALY WANT TO STOP INVESTMENT?"

A: "WELL, I KNOW THAT THE QUESTION OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS DOES NOT HAVE A ONE HUNDRED PERCENT RECORD, THE QUESTION REGARDING RHODESIAN CHROME IS A CASE IN POINT, BUT TO THE EXTENT THAT IT IS EFFECTIVE, IT IS A LEGITIMATE WEAPON IN THE ARSENAL OF THOSE WHO DISSENT OR PROTEST AND I THINK THAT IF IT IS CREATIVELY FOLLOWED, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE ECONOMY HERE IS IN A STATE OF DETERIORATION ANYWAY - I BELIEVE THAT IT NEEDS TO BE TRIED, BUT AS I INDICATED TRIED IN A CREATIVE WAY, BECAUSE YOU KNOW WHEN YOU TALK ABOUT TRYING TO USE EXTERNAL LEVERAGES AND IF YOU ARE NOT TALKING ABOUT MILITARY ACTIVITY, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? YOU HAVE TO BE TALKING ABOUT ECONOMIC SANCTIONS, YOU HAVE TO BE TALKING ABOUT EVERY FORM OF ISOLATION OF THIS SOCIETY THAT CAN POSSIBLY BE ENGAGED IN, AND IF THERE IS CRITICISM OF THOSE TECHNIQUES THEN THE RESPONSIBLE PARTY IS THE GOVERNMENT, AND THE CONTROLLING POLITICAL INTEREST IN THIS AREA,

IT IS NOT THOSE WHO WOULD PERPETRATE SUCH TECHNIQUES BECAUSE THE PEOPLE ONLY PERPETRATE SUCH TECHNIQUES WHEN THERE AREN'T ANY OTHER ALTERNATIVES."

Q: (DIE BURGER): "MR. DIGGS IN THIS TOTAL ISOLATION THAT YOU ENVISAGE, DON'T YOU THINK THAT IT WILL HARM THE BLACK POPULATION OF SOUTH AFRICA JUST AS MUCH, IF NOT MORE SO THAN THE WHITE POPULATION?"

A:" NO, I DON'T THINK SO, THERE HAVE BEEN, THIS IS A CONVENTIONAL KIND OF WISDOM THAT PREVAILS IN TOO MANY QUARTERS HERE, BECAUSE THE BLACK PEOPLE THAT ARE AFFECTED BY THE SYSTEM IS A FAR LARGER GROUP THAN THE INDIVIDUALS WHO MAY BE GAINING SOME BENEFIT ON A CASEZASIS, AS A RESULT OF THE SYSTEM ITSELF, AND UNTIL WE DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE SYSTEM WHICH HOLDS EVERYONE HOSTAGE AND WHICH SUPPRESSES THE ENTIRE SOCIETY THEN WE MUST APPROACH IT, AND I THINK IN ADDITION TO THAT, THAT THERE IS AMPLE EVIDENCE THAT BLACK PEOPLE - MANY BLACK PEOPLE AND OTHER PEOPLE ARE PREPARED FOR THAT KIND OF SACRIFICE, BECAUSE THEY KNOW THAT IN THE LONG RUN IF THIS UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 06 STATE 296243

GENERATES THE KIND OF RESPONSE THAT IT OUGHT TO GENERATE THEN EVERYBODY IS GOING TO BENEFIT."

Q: (SCOTT/CAPE TIMES): "YOU MENTIONED AT THE BEGINNING THAT YOU MOURNED THE MURDER OF TWO PEOPLE - ON WHAT BASIS DO YOU..."

A: "I DIDN'T SAY MURDER, I SAID "I EXTEND CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF TWO MEN THAT WERE KILLED.."

Q: (SCOTT/CAPE TIMES): "NO, YOU SAID MURDERED.."

A: "KILLED, THEN, I CORRECT MYSELF IF THAT IS WHAT I SAID."

(VOICE): "MARTYRED.. I THINK YOUR WORD WAS MARTYRED.."

A: "MARTYRED.. YES PERHAPS I DID SAY THAT.."

Q: (AUGUST/CAPE TIMES): "MR. DIGGS, YOU ARE REPORTED IN JOHANNESBURG AS SAYING THAT YOU HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT OVER 300 PEOPLE WERE KILLED IN THE RIOTS- COULD YOU TELL ME WHO CONFIRMED YOUR INFORMATION?"

A: "WELL, I AM NOT GOING TO INDULGE IN REVEALING THE SOURCES OF MY INFORMATION, BUT I HAVE EVIDENCE THAT IS LEGITIMATE AS FAR AS I AM CONCERNED, THAT THE FIGURES COMING OUT OF THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE WITH RESPECT TO THE CASUALTIES OF SWETO IN PARTICULAR, AND IN SIMILAR DISTURBANCES AROUND THE COUNTRY ARE VASTLY UNDER THE ACTUAL EXPERIENCES."

Q: (POLLOCK"NATAL MERCURY): "CONGRESSMAN DIGGS, COULD WE HAVE ONE MORE QUESTION PLEASE, COULD YOU SAY WHETHER YOU CONDONE OR AGREE

WITH THE PRESENCE OF THE LARGE NUMBER OF COMMUNIST CUBAN SOLDIERS WHO ARE EUPHAMISTICALLY KNOWN AS "TECHNICAL ADVISERS" IN ANGOLA?"

A: "WELL, I HAVE BEEN TO ANGOLA, AND I WAS IN ANGOLA UNDER THE OLD PORTUGUESE REGIME, I WAS IN ANGOLA AFTER THE REGIME THAT CAME TO POWER AFTER THE COUP OF APRIL OF 1974 AND I HAVE BEEN THERE SINCE INDEPENDENCE - THERE IS NO QUESTION IN MY MIND THAT THE RIGHT OF THAT SOVEREIGN COUNTRY TO INVITE THE CUBANS IN, FOR WHATEVER PURPOSE, IS THEIR RIGHT AND THEY ARE THERE BY INVITATION AND THEY ARE THERE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE GOVERNMENT, AND THERE IS NO QUESTION IN MY MIND THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS IN DIRECT CONTROL OF WHATEVER ACTIVITIES THEY ENGAGE IN. THAT IT IS NOT LIKE THE EXPERIENCE
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PAGE 07 STATE 296243

THAT WE HAD IN POLAND FOR EXAMPLE, ALSO, EARLIER ON THIS TRIP WHERE THE ADMINISTRATION AND OTHER POLITICAL AND MILITARY CONTROLS REST IN MOSCOW AND NOT IN WARSAW AND WHERE FIFTY THOUSAND RUSSIAN SOLDIERS OCCUPY THAT COUNTRY, THAT IS NOT THE SITUATION IN ANGOLA BY ANY STRETCH OF THE IMAGINATION, AND WHEN I REFER TO CUBAN ELEMENTS IN THAT COUNTRY, FULFILLING MANPOWER NEEDS IN VARIOUS AREAS IN ORDER TO FULFILL THE GOVERNMENT'S OBLIGATION TO THE PEOPLE, I DO NOT REFER TO THEM AS SO CALLED 'TECHNOCRATS' BECAUSE THEY ARE FULFILLING THOSE NEEDS BECAUSE THE EXODUS OF THE PORTUGUESE DID LEAVE A VOID WITHOUT ANY QUESTION, THEY NOT ONLY TOOK EQUIPMENT WITH THEM, THEY TOOK SKILLS AND OTHER MATERIALS THAT HAVE TO BE REPLACED AND I THINK THAT ONE SHOULD ALSO RECOGNISE THAT THEY HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO PROVIDE THESE KIND OF SERVICES AT THE REQUEST OF THE GOVERNMENT - I THINK ALSO YOU REALLY CANNOT TALK ABOUT THE MANPOWER PROBLEM IN ANGOLA WITHOUT RECOGNISING HISTORICALLY WHY THERE IS SUCH A SHORTAGE OF MANPOWER, ABSENT OF MANY OF THE EXODING PORTUGUESE IS BECAUSE THE JWAABGIIFFDFMTM OF THE PORTUGUESE WHO OCCUPIED THAT COUNTRY FOR SOME 400 YEARS WAS THE MOST REPRESSIVE OF ALL THE COLONIAL POWERS - AT LEAST THE BRITISH AND THE FRENCH PROVIDED EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS - THE PORTUGUESE WERE MORE INTERESTED IN THE SHOW OF SO CALLED MULTIRACIALISM- WITHOUT PROVIDING ECONOMIC AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, IT WAS A DELIBERATELY REPRESSIVE SOCIETY, I CAN REMEMBER BEING EXPOSED TO THE FIGURES OF THE GOVERNMENT ITSELF, UNDER THE OLD PORTUGUESE REGIME, AND YOU COULD SEE A LEVEL OF APPROPRIATION FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES GOING ALONG THE VERY LOW LEVEL AND IT WAS JUST BEFORE THE ESCALATION OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS EFFORTS, PROBABLY ABOUT IN THE EARLY SEVENTIES ABOUT SEVENTY ONE OR SEVENTY TWO WHEN THE CURB BEGAN TO GO UP WHEN THEY BEGAN TO PUT SOME MONEY INTO THAT SYSTEM AND SO THE DEPRIVATIONS THAT PRESENTLY CHARACTERISE THAT SOCIETY HAS ITS ROOTS IN THE REPRESSIVE HISTORY OF PORTUGUESE COLONIALISM AND MATTERS RELATING TO THE EXODUS OF THE CUBANS, BUT ANYBODY WHO BELIEVES THAT THE MILITARY THERE OR THE CUBAN ELEMENTS ARE BEING DIRECTED FROM HAVANA JUST DOESN'T KNOW ITS HISTORY. AND, I MIGHT ADD, SINCE YOU'VE BROUGHT UP ANGOLA, THAT GULF OIL, WHICH IS THE LARGEST

ENTERPRISE IN THE COUNTRY- AN AMERICAN CORPORATION - TO WHOM I SPOKE WHILE I WAS THERE - IS COMPLETELY SATISFIED WITH ITS STATUS, IT IS PAYING INTO THE COFFERS OF THE ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT A HUNDRED MILLION RAND EVERY THREE MONTHS - EIGHTY PERCENT OF ITS BUDGET AND THERE IS NO SECURITY PROBLEM - NO INTERFERENCE WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 08 STATE 296243

THIS ADMINISTRATION AT ALL, AND I MIGHT FURTHER ADD, THAT IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR WHO IS THE DEAN OF THE DELEGATION THERE, AND WHO HAS BEEN IN THAT COUNTRY SINCE INDEPENDENCE THE WHOLE QUESTION OF SECURITY AND COMMUNISM IN ANGOLA IN THE SENSE THAT YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT MARXIST ORIENTED ECONOMIC CONCEPTS, IS ONE THING, COMMUNISM IS ANOTHER, THE BRAZILIANS AREN'T WORRIED THEY ABOUT IT AND THEY ARE MUCH CLOSER TO ANGOLA THAN YOU ARE, AND THEY ARE MUCH CLOSER THAN WE ARE, AND I DON'T THINK ANYBODY IN THIS ROOM WOULD CHARACTERISE A BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT AS BEING COMMUNIST BY ANY STRETCH OF THE IMAGINATION. SI IT IS FOR THESE REASONS AND OTHERS THAT I THINK THE PARANOIA ABOUT SOME KIND OF A COUMMUNIST THREAT FROM THE NORTH IS - HAS, BEEN VASTLY OVERPLAYED AND IF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WOULD STOP ENGAGING IN DESTABILISING ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF UNITA - AND LET NATIONAL RECONCILIATION FOLLOW ITS NORMAL COURSE, THEN I THINK WHAT IS CONSIDERED A THREAT WILL NOT LAST VERY LONG - EVEN WITH THE KIND OF THREAT THAT YOU CHARACTERISE."

Q: (DIE BURGER): "DO YOU HAVE ANY EVIDENCE OF SOUTH AFRICAN CONNECTIONS WITH UNITA\$"

A: "WELL, WE KNOW THAT UNITA CAN ONLY EXIST WITH EXTERNAL SUPPORT, SOUTH AFRICA HAS SUPPORTED UNITA IN THE CIVIL WAR - NOONE INVITED THEM IN THERE, BUT THEY WERE IN THERE, THEY SPPORTED UNITA THEN, THEY PROVIDED THEM WITH NOT ONLY ADVISORS, BUT WITH MATERIALS AND MONIES AND THE CONTINUED ACTIVITY ON THE PART OF UNITA WE WOULD HAVE TO ASSUME IS STILL FORTHCOMING FROM THAT SOURCE, BECAUSE WHERE ELSE WOULD IT COME FROM? UNITA HAS BEEN COMPLETELY DISCREDITED IN THE OUTSIDE WORLD MERELY FROM THE FACT THAT IT WAS ASSOCIATED WITH SOUTH AFRICA IN THAT EFFORT."

Q: (DIE BURGER) "SO ITS AN ASSUMPTION YOU'VE MADE?"

A: "WELL, IF YOU HAVE EVIDENCE WHERE ELSE THEY MIGHT BE ABLE TO GET IT, THEN YOU PRODUCE IT, BUT WE MAKE THE DIRECT CHARGE THAT SUPPORT FOR UNITA CAN ONLY COME FROM SOUTH AFRICA AND AS A MATTER OF FACT, I DO HAVE INTELLIGENT SOURCES IN SUPPORT OF THAT- THROUGH MY OWN GOVERNMENT."

A: (DIE BURGER)" AMERICA WAS ALSO INVOLVED IN THE CIVIL WAR AT ONE STAGE."

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 09 STATE 296243

A: "YES, THEY WERE AND THEY GOT BURNT, AND WHEN YOU SAY AMERICA, IT WAS THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH, NOT THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH, IT WAS DONE COVERTLY AND AS SOON AS THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH AND THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY THAT CONTROLS THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH FOUND OUT ABOUT IT, WE CUT OFF THE FUNDS AND THE AMERICAN ACTIVITY STOPPED, AND I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT A CARTER ADMINISTRATION IS NOT GOING TO BECOME INVOLVED IN ANY DESTABILISING EFFORTS IN THAT AREA, AND I CAN FURTHER ASSURE YOU THAT A CARTER ADMINISTRATION IS NOT GOING TO BECOME INVOLVED IN ANY KIND OF A MILITARY ASSISTANCE ON EITHER SIDE IF THE UNREST IN THIS COUNTRY DEVELOPED INTO AN ARMS STRUGGLE AND SOME KIND OF MILITARY CONFRONTATION."
"THANK YOU VERY MUCH."

HUGHES

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